

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 513

By Todd

A RESOLUTION in support of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America *Code on Interactions with Healthcare Professionals*.

WHEREAS, health care is an expanding portion of state budgets; and

WHEREAS, prescription medicines, which comprise only ten cents (10¢) per health care dollar spent, are being used more frequently to treat diseases, including chronic diseases; and

WHEREAS, prescription medicines have an essential role in treating chronic diseases, as do changes in personal behavior, such as diet and exercise; and

WHEREAS, America's pharmaceutical companies are responsible for the discovery and development of the majority of new medicines available to patients in the United States and worldwide each year; and

WHEREAS, new medicines save lives, improve health, and reduce many health care costs; and

WHEREAS, pharmaceutical companies have the most current information about all aspects of their medicines; and

WHEREAS, providers need to make decisions based on their knowledge of both medicines and individual patients; and

WHEREAS, patients and providers need the assurance that providers have the most current information about treatment options to make the best decisions about what specific medicine to prescribe for which patient; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly believes that the private sector will provide the most patient-centered, efficient, innovative health care for Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) has adopted a revised *Code on Interactions with Healthcare Professionals* that explicitly affirms that pharmaceutical company “interactions with healthcare professionals are professional exchanges designed to benefit patients and to enhance the practice of medicine”; and

WHEREAS, PhRMA has provided a mechanism by which physicians, patients, and the general public can confirm whether an individual pharmaceutical company has agreed to abide by the PhRMA *Code on Interactions with Healthcare Professionals*; and

WHEREAS, the PhRMA *Code on Interactions with Healthcare Professionals* encourages each company to seek external verification that the company has policies and procedures in place to foster compliance with the Code; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that this General Assembly endorses the new Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America *Code on Interactions with Healthcare Professionals* and commends PhRMA for its adoption of both the Code and the public system for identifying companies that have agreed to abide by the Code.